

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2125

ANSWERED ON:11.03.2013

EXPORT OF BASMATI RICE

Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Reddy Shri Modugula Venugopala

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a decline in the export of basmati rice from the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor including the quantum of basmati rice exported during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether the price of basmati rice is increasing continuously in the country due to its low production and the promotion of export of basmati rice by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the United States Food and Drug Administration has found arsenic content in samples of Indian basmati rice in its preliminary analysis; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and its effect on the export of basmati rice from the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a & b) The export of basmati rice has shown an increasing trend. The export details in the last three years and in the current year are:

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	April-Dec 2012#
Qty in lakh MT	20.17	23.37	31.78	24.18
Value Rs. Crore	10889	11355	15450	12923

Source: DGCIS; # Provisional

(c & d) Domestic prices of any agriculture commodity, inter-alia, are a function of several factors like domestic and international demand and supply, cost of production like labour, capital, input cost etc., prevailing domestic and international food inflation etc. and, therefore, cannot be directly attributed to exports alone.

(e & f) The Government has not received any report officially from USFDA or Embassy of India, Washington. However, on USFDA website there is a consumer update referring to preliminary test on presence of arsenic content in some food products including basmati rice.